



**PR Number: 20048625**

**Award Number: P14AC00858**

**Project Number: RMBCP-19**

**CFDA #: 15.945**

**Park/NPS Unit: ROMO**

**Title of Project: Western Tanager and Swainson's Thrush Migration Research – Project Extension**

**Administered through the:** Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement  
Number H1200-09-0005

**CESU Partner:** Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

**PROJECT CONTACTS:**

**Principal Investigator:**

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**FUNDING INFORMATION:**

**Amount Funded: \$6,500**

**NPS Account Numbers (amounts in parentheses): Cost Center: PPIMROMO6L; Functional Area: PPMRSNR1Z.EM0000 (\$6,500)**

**Fund Source (e.g., ONPS, FLREA, CRPP, CESU, etc.): ONPS**

NPS Funding

Is this funded using a reimbursable account number? If yes, IMR contracting needs a copy of the Interagency Agreement. NO

**PROJECT DATES:**

**Start Date: 6/15/2014**

***NOTE: This Task Agreement will become effective on the date of final signature or the effective date of the Award document, whichever is later.***

**End Date: December 31, 2015**

**NPS Administrative Contacts**

**Interim CESU Coordinator (May 18 – September 13, 2014):** Todd Chaudhry, National Park Service/CPCESU, NAU P.O. Box 5765, Flagstaff, AZ 86011, 928-523-6638, Fax: 928-523-2014; todd\_chaudhry@nps.gov

**Intermountain Region Administrative Contact:** Kelly Adams, Grants and Agreements Specialist, National Park Service, 12795 West Alameda Pkwy, Lakewood, CO 80228. Phone: 303-969-2303 Fax: 303-969-2992 Email: Kelly\_adams@nps.gov

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

***Federal Financial Reports*** (Check as required for project based on spending plan, period of performance, risk, cooperator history, etc.)

{ } Quarterly                      { } Semi-annually                      { X } Annually

Final (required)

**PROJECT SCHEDULE AND TECHNICAL REPORT DEADLINES:**

List all technical reports and products in sequential order as required in the scope (more lines and milestones can be added as needed):

*Project Start Date – 6/15/2014*

*Technical progress reports –* { } Quarterly                      { } Semi-annually                      { X } Annually

(Check as needed from PI to monitor progress of specific project. Content should be addressed in the scope.)

*Investigator's Annual Report (IAR)* – March 31 annually

*Database, Collections/Specimens, Archives, and Maps provided to the NPS ATR or Technical Expert* – 12/31/2016

*Draft Final Report* – 11/31/14

*Final Report* – 12/31/14

*Project End Date* – 12/31/15

*Final SF425 FFR* must be submitted within 90 days of project end date

## **PAYMENTS**

**2 CFR PART 215.22:** Cash advance (drawdown) to recipient organization shall be limited to the minimum amounts needed and be timed to be in accordance with the actual immediate cash requirements of the recipient organization in carrying out the purpose of the approved program or project. The timing and amount of cash advances shall be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by the recipient organization for direct program or project costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.

**2 CFR PART 215.25 (8)(e)(1):** Incur pre-award costs 90 calendar days prior to award or more than 90 calendar days with the prior approval of the Federal awarding agency. All pre-award costs are incurred at the recipient's risk. (i.e. the Federal awarding agency is under no obligation to reimburse such costs if for any reason the recipient does not receive an award or if the award is less than anticipated and inadequate to cover such costs.)

## **CESU REQUIRED PRODUCTS (may be different from those products required by the ATR – See Statement of Work for Products required by the NPS unit):**

The Principal Investigator will prepare a brief report abstract suitable for public distribution and two hard copies and an electronic version (in PDF file format) of the final report and mail all to Todd Chaudhry, National Park Service, CPCEU, NAU P.O. Box 5765, Flagstaff, AZ 86011. Please be sure to include the project number (e.g.; NAU-###, UMT-###, UAZDS-###) and the P number on the cover page of the final report.

## **PROJECT ABSTRACT:**

A project demonstrating migratory connectivity between bird species breeding in Rocky Mountain NP, using National Parks in the southwestern U.S. as stopover sites (i.e., Tumacácori National Historical Park), and passing through or over-wintering in Costa Rica was initiated in 2012. To accomplish this, light-level geolocators were deployed on ten Western Tanagers (WETA) in 2012 and one Swainson's Thrush (SWTH) in 2013 in Rocky Mountain NP. These species are known to use habitats in the southwestern U.S. as stopover sites and to over-winter as far south as Central and South America. In 2013, four male WETA returned to the same breeding territories occupied in 2012 transporting the geolocators. Two of the WETA were recaptured and their geolocators were successfully removed and data was downloaded and analyzed. The other two WETA could not be recaptured even after attempting several trapping techniques. We have gained valuable new information about the migration of WETA from Rocky Mountain NP and if the SWTH can be recaptured in 2014 data contained on the geocator will yield valuable insights about the natural history of that species.

## **SCOPE OF WORK:**

A project to demonstrate migratory connectivity between bird species breeding in Rocky Mountain NP, using National Parks in the southwestern U.S. as stopover sites (i.e., Tumacácori National Historical Park), and passing through or over-wintering in Costa Rica was initiated in 2012. To accomplish this light-level geolocators were deployed on ten Western Tanagers (WETA) in 2012 and one Swainson's Thrush (SWTH) in 2013 in Rocky Mountain NP. These species are known to use habitats in the southwestern U.S. as stopover sites and to over-winter as far south as Central and South America. In 2013, four male WETA returned to the same breeding territories occupied in 2012 transporting the geolocators. Two of the WETA were recaptured and their geolocators were successfully removed and data was downloaded and analyzed. The other two WETA could not be recaptured even after attempting several trapping techniques. We have gained valuable new information about the migration of WETA from Rocky Mountain NP and if the SWTH can be recaptured in 2014 data contained on the geocator will yield valuable insights about the natural history of that species. By the end of 2013 all funds committed to this project had been used because of the extra effort involved attempting to capture WETA in 2013. This includes funding for writing a manuscript describing the WETA migration to be published in a peer-reviewed ornithological journal. Additional funding is being requested to work on a publication to share what has been learned and attempt to recapture any returning WETA and SWTH in 2014. It is possible that both of the WETA that were not recaptured in 2013 could return to their breeding territories in 2014 with geolocators containing two years of migration data.

In 2014, field work will consist of returning to breeding territories for all eight WETA where geolocators were not recovered in 2013 to determine if those individuals have returned, but focusing on locations where it is known that WETA returned in 2013 with geolocators (two territories). We will also visit the territory for the SWTH in Wild Basin where geocator was deployed in 2013 and attempt recapture. We will first attempt using lure decoys birds in conjunction with song or alarm call (song for WETA and alarm call for SWTH) in an area where one or more mist-nets have been placed. Other techniques, such as use of noose carpet near nest (if a nest can be located) will be attempted if lure bird/song playback technique does not work. The noose carpet is basically a series of nooses attached to a cloth or wire mesh which will hold the leg of the bird until it can be grasped to remove the geocator. This technique is safe and has been used on a variety of songbirds. Products of this project will include report summarizing significant events of the field work, maps showing locations where birds were captured and recaptured and showing migratory pathways and wintering destinations. Depending on acceptance and success of research, a manuscript will be published in a peer-reviewed ornithological journal. NPS support will be acknowledged in all products.

## **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS OR TASK AGREEMENTS INVOLVING COOPERATORS WORKING ON-SITE**

### **Background**

In cooperative agreements or task agreements with universities where the university utilizes interns, student employees, research associates (RAs) or cooperators on-site (hereafter called "cooperator personnel"), these cooperator personnel sometimes work on government sites in close proximity to federal employees. It is illegal (without specific statutory authority) for federal employees to directly supervise the cooperator personnel or any university employees or for the students or other university employees to supervise federal employees. When cooperator personnel are working on an NPS site, it is important that there is a clear distinction between students and federal employees.

### **Office Environment and Vehicles**

- The office space of the cooperator personnel and NPS personnel should be clearly labeled (Name and NPS or University affiliation on office or cubicle space).

- Cooperator personnel should be listed separately from NPS personnel in telephone lists, other identification or organizational rosters, and publication credits.
- Cooperator personnel should not receive “all-employee” e-mail or other communications intended for NPS personnel (unless it relates directly to the work the cooperator is doing for the NPS). When the e-mail does relate to the work being done, a copy of the same e-mail message should be sent to the University or cooperator’s supervisor.
- Cooperator personnel may use NPS e-mail systems when the communication relates directly to the work the cooperator is doing for the NPS. The e-mail addresses of the cooperator personnel must include a label associated with their NPS e-mail address that identifies the cooperator’s status (i.e., “Linda Webb, Cooperator” would be the label associated with the e-mail address, linda\_webb@contractor.nps.gov). Doing so clearly identifies this individual each time they send an e-mail message using the NPS system, and it identifies their status as a research associate, student intern or student employee in the e-mail directory.
- Unless stipulated in the agreement, cooperator personnel should not drive government vehicles.
- Unless stipulated in the agreement, cooperator personnel should not ride as a passenger in a government vehicle. When this is planned as part of the agreement, an appropriate amount of liability insurance should be negotiated.
- Prior written approval by the Park Superintendent or Center Manager must be obtained in order for a task to allow cooperator personnel to drive or ride in government vehicles.

## **Supervision and Scheduling**

- Each task must specify the university’s/cooperator’s supervisor for the cooperator personnel.
- Unless stipulated in the agreement, NPS staff should not set hours for cooperator personnel, specify where the work should be done, or conduct performance appraisals. National Park Service staff may give performance feedback to the cooperator personnel supervisor.
- Cooperator personnel should report leave, scheduling, and other related issues to the university or cooperator’s supervisor, not to NPS employees. The supervisor of the cooperator personnel should then communicate with the NPS. National Park Service employees cannot directly supervise cooperator personnel on a day-to-day basis. Work should be given to the cooperator personnel (via the cooperator’s supervisor) on a “task basis.” Cooperators should work without NPS supervision to accomplish each task, although technical consultations and cooperation is permissible.
- The Cooperator will be responsible for any disciplinary action needed to correct student employee conduct or performance problems. The NPS agreements technical representative will inform the university/cooperator’s supervisor of any conduct or performance problems.
- The Cooperator will remove student employees from their positions if they fail to improve performance or address conduct issues.
- The NPS will review and provide feedback to students or interns regarding work assignments.
- The NPS will inform the cooperator of conduct or performance problems with cooperator personnel so that the university can counsel employees and correct the performance problems.
- The NPS will recommend to the cooperator dismissal of cooperator personnel based on conduct or performance issues.
- The Cooperator will hire students, interns or RAs to work on NPS tasks identified in the agreement. Hiring will be conducted in consultation with the NPS Agreements Technical Representative (ATR).
- The Cooperator will: pay students, interns or RAs for hours they have worked in support of the agreement.

## Representation and Communication

- Cooperator personnel cannot in any way represent themselves to the public as NPS employees.
- Cooperator personnel are required to wear visible identification at all times.

## Other Issues

- Cooperator personnel should not list an NPS affiliation on publications, but rather should list the cooperative agreement under which the work was performed.
- Cooperator personnel should not be invited to official NPS “social” events.
- Cooperator personnel will follow the local policy of the facility when federal facilities are closed due to early release for holidays, snow days, etc.

## PRODUCTS:

- Report summarizing significant events of the field work
- Maps showing locations where birds were captured and recaptured.
- Maps showing migratory pathways and wintering destinations.
- A manuscript will be published in a peer-reviewed ornithological journal (depending on acceptance and success of research).

**BUDGET:** *(You may create your budget in a spreadsheet and attach it as a separate document when you submit your project coversheet and Justification for Use of Financial Assistance.)*

### **Budget for capturing WETA and SWTH and publishing information in 2014**

Personnel	Amount	Description	Duration	Total
Project Director	\$280	per day	1 days	\$280
RMBO Staff (field work and project coordination)	\$4,709	per month	0.5 months	\$2,355
GIS Specialist and Data Analyst	\$1,355	per month (part-time)	0.5 months	\$678
Field Technician	\$1,900	per month	0.75 months	\$1,425
Personnel Subtotal				\$4,737
Travel				
Rental car			0.5 months	\$500
Gas		~50 gallons @ \$3.75 each		\$188
Travel Subtotal				\$688
Other expenses				
Bird banding supplies				\$107
Subtotal				\$5,532
Indirect	17.5%			\$968
Total cost of project extension				\$6,500